

"The Ottawa Spotlight"

(By Wilfrid Eggleston)

Ottawa, December 1st.—Canada enters the winter with a number of grave problems still unsolved, and there are more encouraging patches in the chequered map of the Dominion than we have had for years. Things would have been much better if the worst had not been again visited with the most severe drought since 1915, and if it really represented the "dry business generally" has been able to absorb that appetite shock and still struggle up to better times. There are four aspects of the picture that are still very bad. The first of course is the condition of a very part of the short-cropped prairie. There are conditions enough to make much better until the next harvest is sold. The second is the national and some of the provincial budgets, which are still running behind. The third is the construction industry, still extremely sluggish. Fourth, which is to some extent the expression of the first and third, is the total number of persons unemployed and on relief.

Drought Costing Millions

The drought is costing millions of dollars, and the expenditure will have to go on until next harvest. Nobody knows exactly what it will cost the federal treasury. My own guess would be between 20 and 25 million dollars. Then there are the loans advanced to the drought areas of the past. They have been carried on the Dominion books as active assets, but it is obvious that a large slice of them will have to be written off as bad debts. This in turn, affects the Dominion balance sheet. On May 1st the Minister of Finance predicted that the deficit next year would be about 100 million dollars. He said that the collections picked up so much that it seemed possible that would be substantially reduced by the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Bennett will largely if not wholly offset that gain, and it will be surprising if the final showing is much better than was forecast.

The construction industry is still running along at a rate about half of normal, with the unemployment of thousands of construction workers and ten of thousands of those engaged in trades which supply the building. They are out of work, and the houses that the housing acts now contemplated will revitalize things, combined with a general return in business. The number of employed continues to rise, but not in any spectacular way. The gain over 1935 appears to be six or seven per cent, while the registered unemployed, according to the statistics of the National Employment Commission, showed in September a decrease of 6.1 per cent. At the end of the month of 1935 and 9.7 per cent below that for 1934.

Wheat Problem Solved?
The wheat situation about which so much had to be written a few months ago, is temporarily solved. All our stocks will now move out, it would seem, by the end of the crop year; and so far the price has been the most satisfactory in several years. Whether the long-range problem is not still very serious, calls for mature consideration. The return of the United States to an export basis in next year, as it might, coupled with good harvests elsewhere, could rapidly make things worse again. But it does seem reasonable to suppose that the western farmer will have again got a pretty fair return for his harvest.

Many lines of activity are definitely better. It is said that the tourist trade was as much as 25 per cent above last year's figures. The tourist business brings more money to Canada than any single export, except wheat, and some years it exceeds wheat. Retail trade is reported to be running about 10 per cent better than last year. Mining, both in metals and gold, is booming. The number trades are quite optimistic. There is a higher level of coal mining. Manufacturing has absorbed a considerable number of persons each consecutive month in the year 1936.

Relative Burden of Taxation
As the level of taxation rises, the relative burden of taxation falls. This can easily be illustrated. When the national income is \$2 1/2 billion dollars a year and the Dominion takes \$400 millions in taxation, it gets 16 per cent out of every 100 dollars the average man gets in wages. When the national income rises to 4 billion dollars a year, only 10 dollars out of every 100 goes to Ottawa. The same principle is true of other taxation. When the national income rises to \$1 billion, it at worst is one dollar in every three

was going in some form of taxation, leaving the other two for all family needs. As the national income rises, this percentage falls, and more is left for the needs of the family.

WEDDINGS

MCGREGOR—JOHNSTON

Saturday, November 28th the Pro-Cathedral, Calgary was the scene of a very pretty and interesting wedding when Hector McGregor, eldest son of Mr and Mrs McGregor, Strathmore, was united in marriage with Helene Mary, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C. F. Johnston of Calgary. Rev. Dean Raag performed the ceremony while the wedding music was played by the organist of the Cathedral.

Promptly at 8:30 the bride proceeded up the aisle on the arm of her father who gave her in marriage. The bride looked exceedingly well, wearing a navy blue tailored suit with velvet hat and a large corsage of pink roses and ferns.

Her bridesmaids were Miss Jean Lagny and Miss Elvira Mason, wearing becoming gowns of light blue satin brocade and hats to match and bouquets of deep pink carnations and ferns.

The best man was Mr L. Atkinson. Following the ceremony the bride and groom were seated at a table assembled at the Puller. For the reception Mrs McGregor donated a very pretty gown of pale green crepe with silver trimmings and silver slippers.

After the happy couple had received the congratulations of their friends, Mr Ross, manager of General Motors at Master of Ceremonies called on Mr McNeill to propose the toast to the bride. This was very happily responded to by the groom. Mr Cunningham in a most impressive speech proposed the toast to the bride, which was responded to in the affirmative by Mr Atkinson.

A choice wedding luncheon was served, the guests seated at round flower decorated tables. The four articles of the menu were: Roast Turkey, with all the trimmings, and pink roses in individual vases.

An informal dance filled the happy hours until a late hour. Mr and Mrs McGregor, Jr. left on Monday for their home in Lethbridge where they have taken an apartment in the Victoria Mansions. Hector is engaged with the Lethbridge Coalfields.

POOL ELEVATORS

SATISFACTORY YEAR

The annual meeting of the Alberta Wheat Pool delegates was commenced on November 24th in Calgary. The reports of the business operations for the year ending July 15th, 1936, were of an encouraging nature. The wheat elevator operating earnings of \$1,002,752.59 from which was deducted \$26,875.59 for depreciation and \$254,702.12 for interest payable to the Alberta government, on the 1929 overpayment, leaving a net surplus from the year's operations of \$709,174.78.

Since 1931 when the Alberta Wheat Pool shouldered the burden of the heavy 1929-30 Pool overpayment and set out to reestablish its financial position, the organization has made marked progress. Last year's operations have increased the members' equity in the assets of the organization by \$429,194.69. The members now have an equity totalling \$4,005,572.78 in Pool assets after deducting the liability for the 29 overpayment.

Contrary to the stand of virtually every other organization engaged in grain marketing and handling, the Alberta Pool, along with its sister Pools in Manitoba and Saskatchewan maintain that Canada should develop a national grain marketing policy and the operating of an active Wheat Board upon which producers should have direct representation and that a minimum price should be fixed from year to year, having some relation to the cost of producing grain in Western Canada. Representations to this effect were presented by the Alberta Wheat Pool's board of directors to the delegates.

The Alberta Pool is operating 420 elevators in Alberta and 3 in Saskatchewan. Wheat Pool headquarters are located at 1111 Avenue 10 in Vancouver and 1 at Prince Rupert.

Local News Items

Mr Herman Trede of Wesleyan university, who first prize at Chicago for his wheat. He has an enviable record, who next?

The final Toronto Bridge of the afternoon series will held Thursday last at Mrs Van Tighem's, six tables comprised the group, the prize winners being: Mr and Mrs H. Morgan, consolation, Mrs French with Mrs Hughes winning the draw. Choice refreshments and a happy social hour completed a very interesting series.

The Ground election will be held Monday, December 7th.

Mrs J. A. French spent Monday in Calgary.

Mrs A. H. and children and Miss Ada Wright returned Sunday from a visit of two months during which they visited Montreal, Brockville, Toronto, Winnipeg and Carman, Man.

Carl Jones is sufficiently recovered to return to his home Tuesday. Keep up the good work Carl.

The Young People's Society of the United Church entertained the Youth at Young People's in the basement of the United Church on Monday evening. After a few games, Mr de Mauley gave a short talk based on his essay on the high seas. Covers were laid for twenty-seven. Mrs. Wiley expressed the gratitude of the Young People's and the gathering closed with singing, "Joy is Plying in the West."

Edward Holland and Ruth Stellan were married, on Saturday, November 28th at the home of the bride's mother, number of Glencliff, Rev. V. M. Gilbert officiated. Mr and Mrs Holland will reside on the Walter farm, north of Glencliff.

GLENCAIRN

Mrs J. R. King of Calgary spent Tuesday, November 24th at the home of her sister Mrs William Hay. Mrs A. D. Downey has been making several trips to Calgary for medical treatment. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Several Glencliff young people enjoyed the Calgary Christmas Tree Fund bazaar very much. Mrs. Wiley Holland of Calgary is a week end guest at the home of Mrs J. A. Downey.

SORORIS TOY SHOWER

Quite a large collection of toys were received as the result of the tea at Mrs White's home Tuesday. Others unable to come, sending their love. These presents of cheer sent out by the Society, bring joy to children that otherwise would experience very little of the gifts of Santa Claus.

THE STRATHMORE STANDARD, STRATHMORE, ALBERTA.

I accept your special subscription offer of The Strathmore Standard and The Calgary Herald—The Strathmore Standard to be delivered weekly for one year from date. The Calgary Herald to be mailed daily for one year from date. I enclose \$8.00 in full payment.

NAME

ADDRESS

ACCEPT THIS SPECIAL OFFER NOW

STRATHMORE GOLFERS GET BUSY FOR 1937 SEASON

All is activity around the Strathmore Curling rink these days in preparation for the coming season.

Some 5 or 6 truck loads of sand have been hauled to the rink and for the past 4 or 5 nights the familiar sight of the building in a state of night and the coming of the curling season of Alex Gray, Tom Gledhill, Frank Jones and other enthusiasts on their hands and knees, leveling the sand on the two sheets could be seen. This work has not been completed and it is doubtful if there is a chance of a more perfect foundation, for the ice. The surface is like a billiard table and the experts say sand is very much better than either sawdust or cinders where it has been tried. Thanks are due both Lyle Campbell and Norman Taylor for their generosity in offering their trucks for use in hauling the sand.

The next step is the signing for membership. All those who intend to curl this season are asked to call on the curling club on Monday night, December 7th, at 8 o'clock, when Mr. de Mauley will be glad to add your name to the list now being made up, but please do so immediately so that the skip may be selected and teams formed.

A number who have not been members for the past several seasons are playing this year and an excellent season for the grand old game is in prospect.

The policy of inviting friends from Nanaimo, Carleton Place, Standart, Rockyview and other points near by will be continued this year and the season is expected to be a very successful one. The curling season is now in full swing and the curling club is happy to have so many friends in the past.

The club financially is now in better shape than for some years past, having made a very satisfactory settlement with the town whereby their indebtedness has been wiped out completely.

The fees from the Ladies Club have been paid in full and they have also received very materially in paying off certain other debts outstanding. Some 5 or 6 of the men's fees for the season of 1936-37 have already been paid and two remaining fees for 1936-37 will be met by work.

The annual general meeting will be held Sunday, December 13th, at 2 o'clock, at the home of Mr Harold Binden. A full attendance of subscribers were present and full progress has been made. The Company is in the enviable position of having made some funds for the "rainy day". Officers are as follows: President H. Groves, Sec. Treas. Harold Binden. With the exception of five comprised from other members.

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GLEN VALLEY ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Glen Valley Mutual Telephone Co. was held Wednesday, November 25th at the home of Mr Harold Binden. A full attendance of subscribers were present and full progress has been made. The Company is in the enviable position of having made some funds for the "rainy day". Officers are as follows: President H. Groves, Sec. Treas. Harold Binden. With the exception of five comprised from other members.

Mr and Mrs H. Tierney of Calgary (laid at the home of Mr and Mrs A. Jensen Friday last.

Mr and Mrs J. Seely and Bill Spill spent day last looking over the big city.

Miss Edith Dawson spent last week with friends in Strathmore.

Mrs Alice Watson spent a few days last week with friends in Calgary.

Mr C. O. Dawson and Mrs Margaret spent Friday in the city, enjoying themselves on a shopping tour ready for Christmas.

Mr Albert Gillings spent the week end visiting with friends in Calgary.

Mr Fred Anstie disposed of one hundred milk last week and realized some very good prices.

Friends of Mrs P. E. Sarsons are very sorry to learn of her sickness, and we sincerely hope she may have a speedy recovery. Her name came again only one beautiful sunshine.

Mr and Mrs Wilfrid Cain suffered a great loss Saturday last when their home was burned to the ground. Luckily no one was hurt. Mrs Cain and her three small children, were outside at the time. The origin of the fire is as yet unknown but is believed to be a faulty chimney. Everything became a total loss, nothing could be salvaged. No insurance was carried. This is a case where a little help will be worth far more than a car load of goods, as usually that is how rendered homeless.

Mr and Mrs Leonard Hilton are spending the week end in Calgary and may visit Edmonton before they return home.

Mr and Mrs Percy Beeger of St. John's, Nfld. spent the week end at the home of Mrs Sherman.

ORATORICAL CONTEST AGAIN SETS HIGH STANDARD

The Annual Oratorical Contest

held under the auspices of the Strathmore District School Fair, attracted a capacity audience Friday evening. The benefit of the years of contest is being well evidenced in the high standard of much of the speeches.

The winning contestants Friday last were all from the Strathmore school and while we extend our sincere congratulations, it is devoutly to be hoped that this will not in future deter those teachers from outside, from entering pupils in next year's contest. It is to be desired rather that the experience and the advice received will encourage them to "try again".

The judges of the contest, Mr. G. Gilbert and Wilfrid who gave their decision as follows:

Grade 7-1st, Dana Young, Subject, What Would We Mortals Be, Subject, 7, 2nd, Jay Foley, Subject, The Slavery of the Clock.

Grade 8-1st, Phyllis McLean, Subject, Glimpses of the Past, Subject, 8-2nd, Walter Brown, Subject, Life in the Far Corners of the Earth.

There were other speeches given which were exceedingly creditable.

JACK GARRETT ALBERTA'S RHODES SCHOLAR FOR 1936

Mr Jack Garrett will receive the warm congratulations of his Strathmore friends on this latest and very splendid honor, which has been conferred on him. Jack has achieved a very creditable record at the University of Toronto, and we do not doubt, he will continue to give a good account of himself at Oxford. Friends who gave him a very lively couple with his own indefatigable study in his chosen course, Honors English, have won for him this crowning achievement in which he has brought honor to himself and to his Strathmore friends.

Jack will go to England next year and will spend the following three years at Oxford. Extensive travel on the continent during the summer months usually fills a part of the time of a Rhodes scholar, and Europe at present affords an opportunity to study the ever varying national problems.

ARDENODE

Mrs Chas. Joel and son Donald returned home Saturday last, after spending the week in Calgary where Donald underwent an operation for tonsils and adenoids. We hope the new man will soon regenerate and feel a lot stronger than he has been at times.

Mrs A. Walsley and baby are spending a few days with friends in Calgary.

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etoria. The speeches were interspersed by the interesting musical programme given largely by pupils of the various schools.

Those contributing were—Edith and Patricia Hermann, Ted Bazzat, Lawrence, Bobby and Ralph Way, the Nilsson children, with Mrs Nilsson accompanying, Verma Barber, Alice and Jack Barrett and Joie French and Alice May, accompanying their respective pupils.

Mr Schille who also performed the duties of chairman presented to the successful orators the Schille Cup and Medal and the Strathmore Standard, in recognition of the respective winners. In addition each contestant received a book, these presentations being made by Principal Crocker.

In response to a request, Rev. Foster gave detailed and constructive criticism, which was much appreciated and should aid teachers to guide their pupils in future contests.

The singing of old gave the King, completed a very interesting evening. Schools entering the contest were, Canby, Bainsville, Nanaimo, Elwood and Harwood.

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Important News For Our Readers

There is an opportunity that few of our readers will want to miss. We are offering a yearly subscription to THE STRATHMORE STANDARD (both THE CALGARY HERALD and THE STRATHMORE STANDARD) for \$8.00.

You need your own Home Weekly to keep you in touch with local affairs. The regular yearly subscription rate of The Strathmore Standard is \$20.00. You would not willingly lose touch with events and developments of World wide, National and Provincial importance. The Calgary Herald the outstanding daily of Southern Alberta gives you a complete daily news service. A yearly mail subscription to The Calgary Daily Herald cost alone \$8.00.

Get both of these Newspapers for less than at this low combination rate.

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